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FTA news

FOOD, TOBACCO, AGRICULTURAL AND ALLIED WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA—CIO

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Picket Line At Campbell's Wins Grievance Case

By Paul Gardner, Business Agent, Local 194

Chicago, Ill.—Some 300 members of Local 194 employed at the Campbell Soup Co., picketing the plant after working hours with signs and posters, forced the Company to take steps to settle the 40-odd grievances hanging fire. Watching the demonstration from their ivory tower, red-faced Company officials read the protest signs which said: "Local 194 Upholds the No-Strike Pledge, We Refuse to Strike;" "Germany Surrendered, But Not Campbell Soup."

"We Are Humans, Not Cans of Soup" and "End the Gestapo Methods at Campbell Soup" read a couple of signs calling attention to the way they resented getting pushed around by plant officials.

The most immediate grievance settled was the reinstatement of three Negro women, without loss of seniority or vacation pay, after they had been discharged on charges of "insubordination." The women, Mabel Young, Doris Briggs and Marie Jones, were discharged after refusing transfers without even getting a chance to take the matter to the Shop Steward. Company Guards just whisked them off the floor and into the Personnel Manager's office where they got their discharge slips. Mobilizing the members immediately, the Union issued leaflets, called a meeting and staged a successful demonstration without holding up production in any way.

GUARANTEE JOBS

The Company agreed that jobs of Negroes would be permanent and that they would not attempt the war. Some 70% of the plant's 3,000 employees are Negro, and many of the grievances resulted from the Company's attitude toward them.

Hereafter any employee who requests a reason for being transferred will be given the reason instead of the "bum's rush." And, the Company agreed to work out a better arrangement for handling grievances.

Members of the Grievance Committee who got these committments from the management following the demonstration, were: Pres. John Gallacher, Bus. Agt. Paul Gardner, Vito Capozzielli, Lit Rucker, John Jurgensohn, Henry Gistover, and Thomas Smith.

MIGHTY VICTORY

A joint statement issued by Local Pres. John Gallacher, Bus. Agt. Paul Gardner, and Fin. Secy. Veronica Kryzan, said: "The settlement between the Company and the Union is a mighty victory for every employee of the Campbell Soup Co. Their sacrifices made in keeping the no-strike pledge has been recorded and we have kept faith with the fighting men at the front. We are proud of the job that the colored and white workers have done in keeping the food rolling to the fighting front. All labor, regarless of race, color or creed, wants only respect, fair treatment and fair play. No company has the right to take advantage of our faith.

"The Campbell Soup Co. realized and will again realize that Local 194 wants to do its part in winning the war. We will do our job if our rights are respected. If those rights are not respected, Local 194 will take adequate measures to see that they are."

FTA And CIO To Fight Larus Case Decision

Philadelphia, Pa.—This is the beginning of a big fight on the part of FTA and the CIO to compel the National Labor Relations Board to put an end to Jim Crow unionism in the AFL. With the strong support of the Electrical and Auto workers unions and the national CIO office, FTA is prepared to return to the NLRB at the earliest possible moment to force a reversal of the Larus case decision.

"By its decision in the Larus case, the NLRB is following a dangerous policy of approving Jim Crow locals which lead to discriminatory practices against Negro workers," FTA President Donald Henderson wrote to the Board on July 9.

Protesting the NLRB's ruling on July 2, which dismissed FTA's motion to rescind certification of the AFL Tobacco Union covering employees of the Larus and Brother plant in Richmond, Virginia, Hendersen charged the Board with "taking the easy way out and [illegible] motion was based on charges that the AFL union had failed to bargain in good faith for the Negro workers in the plant.

"By telling the AFL that it may file a new petition in the name of Local 219 (the white local) and 219-B (the Negro local), the NLRB is surrendering to the principles of the enemies of democratic trade unionism," Henderson wrote. "The Board's decisions in the General Motors and Atlantic Oak Flooring cases also indicate that this line is becoming a consistent policy of the Board."

Philip Murray, CIO President, likewise condemned the NLRB's decisions in these three cases in a letter to the Board on July 7.

The NLRB ruling on the Larus case was dated June 30 and found that "while there was no discriminatory practice as to wages, hours and working conditions against the Negro employees in this bargaining unit, the AFL did fail to perform its obligation..."

Immediately after being certified, the Tobacco Workers International Union Local 219 (AFL), set up 219-B, for the Negro workers, although only Local 219 was named bargaining agent.

This condition led the NLRB to say that because the check-off and maintenance of membership requirement was applied to members of both locals, the certified union (Local 219) used "its statutory power as exclusive representative to compel dues payments and continuance of membership with respect to an organization which had no legal standing. We think this was a clear abuse of the standard of conduct imposed upon the exclusive representative under Section 9 (A) of the act."

Because the AFL union's contract has expired, however, the NLRB found the fact that it has relinquished its certification makes the question of discrimination [illegible] may do so in the name of Local 219 and 219-B. If the CIO (Food, Tobacco, Agricultural and Allied Workers) should desire to participate in a new election it may do so by filing a separate petition or by filing a motion to intervene in any proceedings which may be instituted by the AFL."

Congressmen To Petition Truman On Wage Policy

Washington, D. C.—In response to labor's number-one campaign for wage increases to meet reconversion needs, a group of 28 Congressmen drew up a petition to President Truman, calling upon him to restore the War Labor Board's authority to approve wage adjustments.

Led by Rep. Chet Holifield (D., Calif.), the 28 pro-labor Congressmen are urging wage increases to help finish off the Pacific war quickly, to eliminate substandard wages and to assure the buying power necessary to maintain full production and employment.

The cancellations and cutbacks of war orders since V-E Day has "brought unemployment which has every prospect of increasing," the petition stated. It went on to show how the decline in overtime pay has led to lower take-home pay, resulting in "a loss of weekly wages and purchasing power. Precisely the reverse is necessary to assure an expanding postwar economy of full production and full employment."

Taking advantage of the coming House recess, when many Congressmen will be at home, the signers, with the aid of unions in the field, plan to greatly lengthen the list of signatures before presenting the petition to the President. To aid in the campaign, the CIO News has printed a copy of the petition in the July 9 issue, urging the workers to clip it and send it to their Congressmen.

Not only the workers, but the whole country "needs the raises if it is going to avoid a disastrous deflation and maybe a depression, because worker's wages minus overtime won't buy enough of the goods that are produced," the CIO News editorial states.

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IS YOUR PLANT 100% ORGANIZED? IF NOT—

Close The Ranks!

By HAROLD J. LANE, General Secretary-Treasurer

ONE of the major problems facing our International Union remains the problem of consolidation. This problem was brought sharply into focus by my report to the International Executive Board in which I pointed out that one-third of the employees in plants under contract with FTA are not members of the Union.

This gap must be closed, not only from the standpoint that the Union has brought benefits to this one-third of the total number of employees covered by our contracts who are not paying dues and sharing the cost of the organization, but this gap must be closed in order to put our Union in a strong bargaining position with employers in the postwar period. Certainly one of our objectives should be the change of Maintenance of Membership contracts to Union Shop contracts.

Much discussion at the time of the Board meeting took place around this subject, and while we realize fully that there may be one or two reasons why the job has not been done to date, nevertheless we are not interested in excuses for the coming period, but are interested in having our organization face this problem and make it our number one task.

Organizing Program

• Is the present personnel competent and capable of establishing organizing committees within the locals where problems exist and to work out an organizing program which will bring in the balance of the workers in the shops? If not, changes should be made.

• Is it necessary and will it plan, such as has been proven successful in a number of our locals, where part of the initiation fee which remains in the local union treasury, is given to any member, shop steward, officer or member of the organizing committee, for every new member brought into the organization. In some of the larger shops where the gap is more pronounced, you might try a plan which would be to give a $25.00 war bond for every 25 new members brought into the organization.

• There is the possibility of plant-gate demonstrations, in which departments and shops would be mobilized with placards and signs and use of sound truck, before work, during noon hours and after work.

Issue Leaflets

• There should be regular issuance of effective leaflets and propaganda concentrated and, in the main, centered upon issues affecting the welfare of the workers and tied into their everyday work in the shop, not over-looking the basic point of interest of all workers, mainly the differences that arise between management and the Union.

I have a feeling that during the past period we have been lax and have many times missed a good opportunity to rally the workers on issues. I am 100 per cent in favor of labor-management cooperation—BUT—we cannot have unity at the sacrifice of our principles and we cannot carry unity to the point of appeasement, thereby sacrificing the interests of our membership and the workers in toto.

• Organizers and locals must be on the alert for issues of a community interest in which the workers in the shops are vitally concerned and interested. We are the only avenue that our members have of expressing their opinions when the local speaks. I am referring to issues such as improved housing, better health and recreational facilities, more adequate educational facilities. Every one of these items can be approached from the standpoint—sure many of us are too old to appreciate these things, nevertheless we can make it better for our children.

If there are no live issues of community interest, then through a resolution and local City CIO Council create an issue, such as a health clinic or hospital within reach of every father, mother and child, an adequate lunch program for the hildren, day nurseries.

These are issues that, after they have passed the resolution stage can become a rallying point for, and the basis of, cooperation from many organizations, such as church, YWCA, Parents Educational Associations, etc. We must stop missing the boat. Take the leadership and be in the forefront on all issues that have a bearing on improving the standard of living of the people in your community.

Political Action And Wages

• Political action must be taken down out of the clouds and tied in with the everyday take-home pay of the workers. We have got to emphasize, that what we negotiate around the bargaining table, must be protected by the constant alertness on the part of the workers to see that their representatives in government do not take away from us on the political field what we have gained on the economic field. It has got to be approached from the standpoint that it is one and the same problem and that political action must be viewed in the same light as your shop steward system.

We can make the same comparison of having the executive board of the local or the shop stewards visit their Representatives and Congressmen or Mayor and voice their thoughts on pending matters, in the same light as you have a shop steward council meeting and department meeting where the workers take their hair down on how grievances are settled. We must not wait until a month before the 1946 elections take place in order to mobilize our forces, but work must be started and enlarged and improved during the coming period and this is a constant job and not a job that usually takes place every two or four years.

Among the thoughts that are uppermost in the minds of the workers today are the cut-back from 48 hours to 40 hours work per week. This means a cut in the take-home pay of every worker and we must concentrate our fight on the political field to change the wage policy of the government and increase the minimum under the wage and hour law to $.65 an hour in order to defeat wage cuts.

Do you think you are going to negotiate this around the table with the bosses? Hell No! This is a political question.

How Long Will Jobs Last?

Another, equally important in the minds of the workers, is how long they are going to have jobs and whether or not they are to receive any reasonable unemployment insurance between jobs.

Do you think this is going to be negotiated around the table with the bosses? Hell No! This is a political question.

You have got to mobilize on the political field to rally behind the $25.00 for 26 weeks that has been so capably put forward by President Truman. This is not going to be done by wishful thinking. It is going to be done by pressure—by telegrams, by petitions to Congressmen, by demonstrations, and any other weapon at your disposal.

The program of 60 million jobs is not going to be settled around a table talking to the bosses. It is going to take political action of the highest degree. It is going to take a workable Reconversion plan. It is going to take a program of public works, and it is going to take WORK on your part and the part of everyone of our members, to help accomplish this objective.

We certainly should realize and understand by this time, that removal of hours from overtime payment exemption on the Wage and Hour law for food and tobacco workers is not going to be accomplished by negotiations with the companies with whom we have contracts. The same thing applies to the rights of Agricultural workers under the Wagner Act. We certainly should know by this time that the only way to make these changes is the political way and there is no short cut.

• The full resources of FTA councils should be utilized on this problem and reports should be made at each council meeting on what progress has been made and every suggestion and recommendation of local unions should be taken into serious consideration by Regional Directors and Organizers and further serious thought should be given to utilize the more adequate funds that are available in many local unions today to—

• Put on part-time Business Agents or—

Organizing Committees

• Establish organizing committees which would be compensated for loss of time during working hours and expenses paid, for house to house visiting after working hours.

I am certain that if the rank and file of our organization have a clear understanding of the problem of consolidation, our membership can be mobolized to help do this job. And—perhaps get away from the mechanical approach of signing people up by recapturing some of the crusading spirit that was prevalent in the early days of the organization.

CIO Leader Condemns Phony WLB Lea Rider

A VICIOUS drive to destroy workers' rights under the CIO, initiated by the California citrus industry, has come to a head with the introduction in the House and Senate of the Lea rider on War Labor Board appropriations. The Lea rider would have the effect of removing from the jurisdiction of the War Labor Board millions of workers in the food processing industries, thereby leaving them with no peaceful means of settling their grievances with their employers.

Philip M. Connelly, Secy.-Treas. of the Los Angeles CIO Council, in a statement entered in the Special House Food Investigating Committee Hearing records, on behalf of the California CIO Council, said of the Lea rider:

"The organized food processing workers and the whole organized labor movement in the CIO . . . are completely opposed to this rider on the appropriation for the War Labor Board.

Relations Improved

"Under the War Labor Board, relations between the employers and organized workers in the packing and allied industries have improved very considerably. During the war period, the Food, Tobacco, Agricultural and Allied Workers Union, along with all other responsible unions, pledged not to strike and to increase production in every possible way. There has not been a single strike in the sheds and plants under the jurisdiction of this Union since Pearl Harbor.

"The Union has continually used its influence to keep workers on the job and settle all differences peacefully. Compare this to the strife-torn record in the thirties, when there were 150 odd strikes with over 90 thousand workers involved in California agricultural and food processing plants between 1933 and 1939. I do not believe that the thinking, responsible citizens of California would like to see a return to the chaotic conditions of labor relations in California agriculture which gave this state such doubtful notoriety in that period. . . .

Without the peaceful means of settling grievances, Connelly pointed out, "the morale of the remaining workers would be lowered. There would be a decrease in efficiency and in production of vitally needed food.

Still at War

"We are still at war. We need as great a food production as we can possibly get to supply our troops, our civilian population, and give as much help as possible to the liberated countries of Europe. The Dept. of Agriculture has announced a drastic increase in the goal for sugar beet production to 150% of last year's production. They have urged continuance of the production of most crops at the peak levels of last year. Due to food shortages in the United States we have cut our commitments on lend-lease food shipments during the rest of the year. . . .

"At this particular time when the Food, Tobacco, Agricultural and Allied Workers Union of America have been making significant progress in organizing workers in the citrus sheds, the Lea rider becomes one of the most open, anti-labor moves that have come before this session of Congress. The corporations and large grower-shippers of the industrialized agriculture of California would prefer to deal with their employees without the interference of a court of last resort. They object to the union security standards which the War Labor Board has developed to protect labor in return for its no-strike pledge. They want to turn the clock back to the twenties or thirties, when there were no unions, no War Labor Board or National Labor Relations Board, and when the employers were able to deal with labor on their own terms. . . .

"The Lea rider is part of an organized campaign to deprive agricultural processing workers of the benefits of social legislation . . . and of the rights of self-organization. . . .

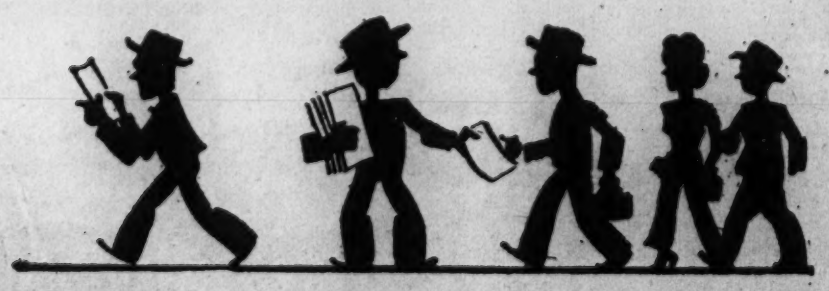
Anti-Union Attack

"Passage of the Lea rider by Congress would break down all of the progress which has been made by this Union (FTA) and others in stabilizing labor relations and improving the conditions of agricultural processing workers during the last few years. . . ." It . . . "would be used by the employers as the start of a campaign to undermine the unions completely.

"In closing I want to emphasize again, that we cannot, we will not permit the clock to be turned back. We look forward to an economy of abundance and security for all, to be obtained by the fullest utilization of all our resources and manpower for peace rather than for war. Now is the time to expand the rights of self-organization, security and social legislation to excluded workers, as proposed by Pres. Truman. This is not the time to deprive the disadvantaged migratory and agricultural workers of these rights and benefits.

Eager Beaver

FUEL WILL BE SCARCE NEXT WINTER
EAGER BEAVER INVENTION NO. 3
SLOT MACHINE COAL DISPENSER FOR FOLKS WHO LIKE TO TAKE A CHANCE ON THEIR FUEL SUPPLY



Company Shells Out: When the American Tobacco Co., Charleston, S. C., said no, Local 15 stood pat and called in an arbitrator. Result: Lucille Louise Simmons (above, left) was paid $5.00 for time lost from work during negotiations on a contract on Nov. 23, 1944; and all other members of the Negotiating Committee received like payments from the Company. The arbitrator also ordered the Company to pay $242.24 to Ludie Ackerman (above, right) for time loss from work when the Company fired him "for coming to work too early." Business Agent Reuel Stanfield (center) is all smiles over the Union's victory.

Union Fights Reconversion Wage Cuts at Hills Bros.

Brooklyn, N. Y.—From $41 to $16 per week—that is how deeply wages have slipped down the scale at the Hills Brothers plant here since reconversion began in January, 1945! Local 207 is now awaiting a decision on this, one of the first reconversion wage cases to be sent to the Second Regional War Labor Board.

According to Local 207 Financial Secy. Rose DeCrescenzo and Recording Secy. Pauline Camarda, the Hills Brothers plant began to reconvert in January from packing of K rations and production of Fruit Bars for the Army Quartermaster Corps, back to the packing of Dromedary Dates. Date packing had been suspended in the summer of 1942, when the Company got its war contracts.

Between the summer of 1942 and January of 1945, approximately 85% of the employees in the plant were engaged in war production. Top seniority employees worked in the Ration K and Fruit Bar Department, averaging $1 to $1.04 per hour.

Since last January, employees faced a wage cut of 50c per hour.

UNION'S DEMANDS

Local 207's arguments before the War Labor Board are:

- Company has no right to give wage cuts;
- Date packing requires more skill than Fruit Bar packing; there is more selecting, sizing and waste in date operations;
- Conditions of the dates are very bad, requiring more time and energy in packing;
- The Company installed a new conveyor system for date packing, which is a different method of working than in the past. Present piece rates are based upon the old method of work, but they are not adequate for the present method;
- The average Fruit Bar employees' take-home on a 40-hour basis used to be $41.70. Today the average take-home pay is $16 to $17 per week. The workers no longer are able to afford War Bond deductions from their pay;
- This reconversion has resulted in a 50% cut in the working force in the plant. As late as July 11, an additional 370 workers were laid off.

Local 207's case has been before a tri-partite panel of the WLB since March, 1945.

The local is currently negotiating for a new contract, and is asking for a 65c minimum for women and a 85c minimum for men.

First Contract Signed At Parisian Novelty

Chicago, Ill.—Complete agreement was reached between Local 194 and the Parisian Novelty Company in the first contract negotiated on July 2, without the use of a single government agency, according to Business Agent Paul Gardner.

Wage provisions in the contract gave the workers 5c an hour wage increases, four hours call-in pay, an 8-hour day, 40-hour week, with time-and-a-half for overtime, holidays, and doubletime for the seventh day worked.

One-week paid vacations will be given to employees on the payroll for one year, and two-week vacations to employees with five years' service. Provisions were made for promotions, transfers and for computing holidays as days worked when figuring overtime.

OTHER GAINS

Also provided in the agreement was maintenance of membership and automatic check-off, seniority rights, a union grievance procedure, job security for veterans, union bulletin boards in the plant, and pay for time lost in settling grievances.

All wage adjustments were submitted to the War Labor Board on a Form 10.

Parisian Novelty workers hailed the new contract as a big improvement over the days before they were represented by FTA, when paid vacations, seniority rights, grievance procedure, etc. were just talked about and never acted upon.

Agree On 5c Increase At Royal Pkg.

Los Angeles, Calif.—Settlement of a dispute between Local 3 and the Royal Packing Co. on the wages and check-off clauses in the contract paved the way for filing a joint Form 10 asking War Labor Board approval for a 5c hourly increase in minimum wage, paid vacations and check-off of dues.

By settling the dispute before it reached the WLB panel hearing, the Local made the possibilities of Board approval more certain and speedier through the joint Form 10.

WRITE LETTERS

Local 3's Executive Board, at its last meeting, proposed a plan of using 10-minute intermissions during union meetings for the writing of letters and cards on important legislative issues.

The plan developed out of Business Agent "Doc" Johnston's campaign at the last Local Board meeting when he got 9 cards to State Assemblymen written in 10 minutes, asking for support for State FEPC bill A.B. 3. Brother Johnston thinks that the same method of lively political action should be tried at membership and plant meetings. "Individual letters are every bit as important as letters and wires from the Local as a whole," he said.

KEEP FAITH with us— by buying WAR BONDS

Local 78 Maps Program To Enforce Shed Pacts

Salinas, Calif.—At a special meeting here on June 25, Local 78's Executive Board took steps to enforce its contracts covering fruit and vegetable packingsheds in the Salinas-Watsonville-Hollister area. Among the chief provisions to be enforced are the seniority, checkoff and preferential hiring clauses.

In order to make clear to the members what their rights are under the contracts, Local 78 will prepare a pamphlet to be put into the hands of every member. The pamphlet will also describe the rights and duties of the Shop Stewards and the Council.

The Executive Board proposed the setting up of a well-functioning Shop Stewards Council, which will hold business meetings twice a month in addition to its regular dinner meetings. The Council will be given greater attention by the business agents and officers of the Local.

To fill an important need in the Local's activities, the Executive Board voted to hire an Educational Director who will work closely with the Stewards Council and serve the Local by issuing a printed newspaper. Also, area directors will be set up in each district of the far-flung California-Arizona Local.

A letter protesting employers' violations of the seniority and preferential hiring clauses in the Union's contracts is being sent to the Grower-Shippers Association and to each individual employer.

ORGANIZING SUBSIDY

Further decisions of the Executive Board include the setting up of a separate CBO office, and placing a resident International Representative in Salinas. To increase organizational work of the Local, the International will provide a subsidy of $600 per month for four months, from July through October.

The Executive Board took steps to put an end to the anti-union activities of an anonymous group responsible for issuing "The Finger," a disruptive paper distributed among workers on the sheds. It voted to expel the anti-union persons for 99 years when apprehended.

Special assistance was rendered at the Board meeting by FTA General President Donald Henderson, Int. Vice-Pres. Dixie Tiller and Int. Vice-Pres. Luisa Moreno.

Also present were regular Board members Herschel Crow, Jerry Toles, Rufus Bell, Eula Whitney, "Shorty" Sales, Herschel Hancock, Joe Parks and Ethel Alcorn. Board member Charles Law was unable to attend because of pressure of work in Phoenix, and Duke Cunningham was in ill health.

Win Election at Federal Compress

By Frank Hargrove, Regional Director

Memphis, Tenn. — An NLRB election won at the Bodly Avenue plant by a vote of 26 to 0 on May 26, brought another of the Federal Compress plants under the wing of Local 19. This is quite a victory over the Company's opposition to the Union's efforts to organize the compress workers and improve working conditions, which in the past have been among the worst in the South.

Mace Mixon, veteran compress worker and member of FTA, was chiefly responsible for going to work at the plant and getting the fellows together to join the Union. He was assisted by John Mack Dyson, Local 19 Organizer.

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$94,181 to War Relief Given by FTA Members

Philadelphia, Pa.—A total of $94,181.29 has been contributed by FTA members to the National CIO War Relief Committee during the 1944-45 campaign, National CIO War Relief Director Leo Perlis informed General Pres. Donald Henderson in a letter of acknowledgment.

Over 82 thousand dollars more than FTA raised in the 1943-44 campaign, this contribution went to support many agencies serving the home front, foreign relief, and armed forces, such as the USO, American Red Cross, Russian War Relief, United China Relief, and many others.

Divided among the total membership of FTA, the 94 thousand dollar contribution would amount to about $4.23 donated by each person in FTA.

Largest single contribution made was by the FTA in Illinois which contributed $52,902.98.

Local 79 Ketchup Brings Cheer to G.I.

By Beatrice Reid, Reporter

Bay City, Mich. — Marine Cpl. Albert H. Baker, son of Local 79 member Oscar Baker, had a chance to do some hometown boosting away off in the Marshall Isles, when he found on the mess hall table a bottle of ketchup put out by the Beutel Canning Co.

Telling the story in a letter to his folks, Cpl. Baker said, "Yesterday I went into the chow room to eat. We had hamburgers for lunch and on the table was a bottle of ketchup with a big Michigan label. Naturally, I looked to see just where in Michigan it was, and imagine my surprise when I read 'Beutel Canning Co., Mich.' So I showed the men just how the plant was helping and contributing to the war effort."

Union Gets Raises At Chase & Sanborn

Chicago, Ill. — Members of the Chase & Sanborn Coffee Division of Local 194 are celebrating new wage increases this week affecting 39 employees, according to Business Agent Paul Gardner. The increases, which came through War Labor Board approval of a Form 10, will mean $1.5(to $2.00 more per week for women, and $2.00 more for men classified as Roasters. Increases for 34 of the 39 employees are retroactive to October 6, 1944.

Two new classifications of Head Operating Foreman and Assistant Shipping Clerk were also approved. Increased vacation pay was approved for all 80 employees in the plant.

Previously, the Board had denied approval for these increases submitted on a Form 10. On the first occasion the Board had not yet adopted any rulings on wages. In the second attempt the Company had filled out the form improperly. Finally, the Local filled out the Form 10 in its proper form and the result was Board approval for the increases.

Increases Won At Steffen Vinegar

Chicago, Ill.—Wage increases of 6 to 10c an hour were won by Local 194 for the employees of the Steffen Vinegar Co. Wages had been the only item left open in the new agreement signed with the Company. However, the assistance of Commissioner Anderson of the U. S. Conciliation Service helped to bring about a settlement.

Local 194 leaders feel that they won the increases by heeding the advice of the International Office and studying closely all the angles of War Labor Board procedures.

The Flag of Victory, symbol of the 7th War Loan, was given a special twist by the Akron Beacon Journal on May 13, when it printed the above picture on the front page of its Rotomagazine. Featured in the picture is Ralph Weaver, President of Quaker Oats Local 120. Above, left to right: Haven L. Zebold, Attorney Rice A. Hershey, and Mrs. Carl B. Hardman, Akron war loan drive leaders; Ralph Weaver of FTA; C. W. Seiberling, first vice president, Seiberling Rubber Co.; and Eagle Scout Jack Morganstern.

Local 120 Rallies For Bond Drive

By J. N. Billings, Reporter

Akron, Ohio—A capacity attendance of Local 120's membership was on hand for our recent War Bond Rally here which was full of enthusiasm. It would be hard to find a single individual in our Local who does not have a brother, sister, sweetheart or husband in the service, and they know the quickest and surest way to bring them home is to work and buy bonds.

We have at least one member who believes in this War Bond drive to the extent that he works selling bonds while on furlough. He is Tech. Sgt. Bill Simpson, 3rd Army U.S.A. Bill is a veteran of some of the hardest fighting in the European war theater, and while home on a six week convalescent furlough he helped to sell bonds in the Quaker Oats plant.

WOUNDED IN BATTLE

Sgt. Simpson was wounded by German rifle fire in the arm and shoulder while fighting with General Patton's army in Northern France.

It is not a sacrifice, but a pleasure, to spend his furlough selling bonds, Bill said. "All our boys ask who remain on the battle front fighting and sometimes dying, is for us to keep production rolling, and to keep on buying bonds, so that the necessary supplies will reach them in time. With the proper equipment they can beat the Japs so much quicker, and will have a far greater chance of returning home safely."

INFANTRY SHOW

Local 120 helped the Akron CIO Council to sponsor an infantry exhibition on May 24 to help boost the bond drive. Some 7,000 Akron war workers saw the show and bought bonds.

The "Here's Your Infantry" exhibit was organized at Fort Benning, Georgia, and was made up of boys who have fought in Europe and in the South Pacific. It was not spectacular, but grim and realistic. We saw the Yanks fighting before our eyes, through TNT land mines, barbed wire barricades, mock Jap snipers, mortar fire, rifle and machinegun chatter and the roar of big planes landing and leaving the air field nearby.

War Bond Prizes were awarded by Local 120 to lucky members at the War Bond Rally sponsored by the Local. The winners were Fred Bell, Charles Fowler and Richard Brunner. Above, left to right: Bea Christensen draws the three winning numbers, assisted by Joseph Schutt, Chairman of the Entertainment Committee, and Ralph Weaver, Chairman of the War Bond Committee and President of the Local. Mrs. Christensen's husband, William, is also a member of Local 120 and is now serving in the Armed Forces.

Prejudice Makes Us Poorer, Army Says

"PREJUDICE makes all of us poorer," says the War Dept. Orientation Fact Sheet, No. 70, a publication put out for the education of approximately 10 million men and women in uniform.

Calling prejudice "the roadblock to progress," the Fact Sheet says: "We can't have an enlightened democracy with minority groups living in ignorance. We can't have a prosperous democracy with minority groups so poor that they can't afford to buy the goods America produces.

"If a minority is kept at a low wage scale in the same field or area in which we work, eventually our own wages will be reduced because of a smaller demand for consumer goods and the competition of cheap labor. Conversely, a higher standard of living for any group increases the demands for consumer goods and makes for a more prosperous country . . ."

Louis Jedlicka — New Executive Board Member

Philadelphia, Pa.—The newest member of FTA's International Executive Board is Louis Jedlicka, Business Agent of Quaker Oats Local 110 of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Appointed by the Board to replace Int. Vice-Pres. Otis Nation, who is now on leave with the Armed Forces, Jedlicka had been elected to a position of national leadership for the first time at last December's FTA Convention. At that time he was elected Alternate Vice-President.

A charter member of Local 110, Jedlicka has served in many capacities in the past four years. He has been a Trustee, News Reporter, Editor of the UCW (United Cereal Workers Local 110) Newsletter, and 2nd Vice-President. The Local recently re-elected him to the position of Financial Secretary and Business Agent.

Before he assumed full-time work for the Union, Jedlicka worked in the package department of the Quaker Oats Company. His talent for making outstanding leaflets, posters and bulletins is well-known in Cedar Rapids.

At the end of last year, Lou was informed that his only son, serving overseas in the Army, was killed in action. It steeled his determination to keep on fighting for the things that his boy and thousands of other boys fought and died for—peace, jobs and freedom.

LOUIS JEDLICKA

Taking it all in at the Virginia CIO Educational Conference on June 9 and 10, delegates from Locals 45 and 57 eagerly picked up the material at the literature table. Above, left to right, are Local 57 delegates William Smith, Pete Murphy, Max Sussman (Business Agent, Locals 45 and 57), Thelma Douglas, Adele Ellis, Mary Eck and Elizabeth Butler. Local 45 delegates were Bennie Rouse, Charles MacClaiborne, Mary Lawrence, Margaret Bettes, Annie Rogers, Carrie Monroe, and Charles Lipscomb. Attended by more than 100 members of CIO unions in Virginia, the Conference was conducted by the Southern School for Workers. The first session was opened in fine form by Charles MacClaiborne, who offered a Bible reading, prayer and song. Allan S. Haywood, CIO Organization Director, spoke on the World Trade Union Conference at a dinner given in his honor during the Educational Conference.

Bill Asks 75c Minimum And 35-Hour Work Week

Washington, D. C.—One of the new California liberals, Rep. Ellis Patterson (D., Cal.), has introduced a bill calling for amendment of the federal wage and hour law to provide a 75c minimum wage and a 35-hour week.

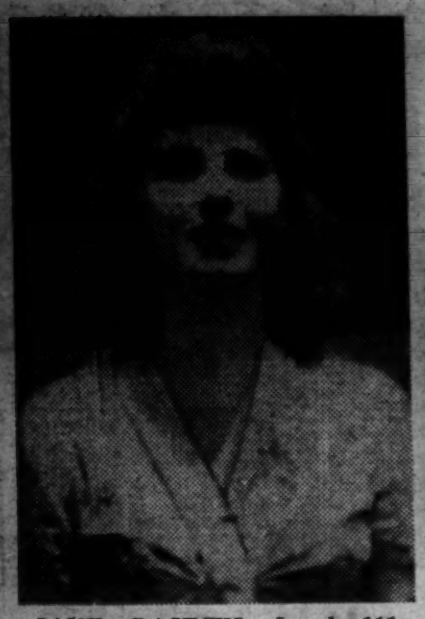
The bill, HR. 3719, broadens the definition of "commerce" to include all employers engaged in trade, traffic, commerce, transportion or communication among the several states so as to cover thousands now barred from federal labor laws.

Patterson's bill would prohibit child labor and bars the inclusion of tips, board, lodging or other facilities customarily furnished in figuring wages. It calls for payment of time-and-a-half after 35 hours, unless, by contract or WLB order, an agreement has been reached for employment of up to 1,000 hours in any 36 week period or 2,000 hours for 52 weeks.

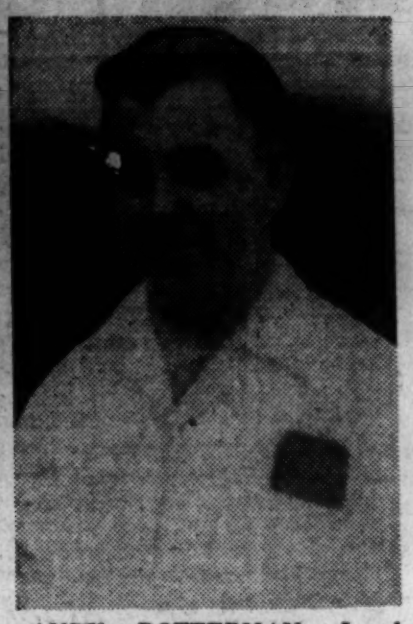
To attain the 75c minimum wage, industry committees composed of labor, industry and public hearings are to be set up to recommend minimum rates so that, without curtailing employment, the objective of 75c will be reached as rapidly as possible.

Have you written that letter yet? The FTA News Letter-Writing Contest ends July 31. See details on page 6.

Training Union Leaders



JANE RAJECKI, Local 111, Christian Bros., Pittsburgh, Pa.: "This school has taught me the real meaning of unionism. One thing I'll be sure to take back to my local is the correct procedure in taking up grievances in the plant. It is most important for us to know that grievances should be put in writing and that they should never be taken up without a shop steward."



ANDY DOTTERMAN, Local 638, Consolidated Cigar, Lancaster, Pa.: "I'll certainly never forget the week that I was here. If we can apply what we learned at this school, our Local can certainly win a union shop at our plant. We're going back to our Local and build a bigger and better Political Action Committee."

IN ADDITION to the rolling green hills, the fresh country air and the sparkling pool—in addition to the laughter, singing and horseplay—

Twenty-seven hearty delegates from local unions in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania learned the A, B, C's—and a lot more—of union-building and leadership.

It was the one-week FTA Leadership Training School held in Bechtelsville, Pa., from July 1 to 8, the first of a new series of schools conducted by the Education Department.

Coming from 10 local unions in the area, the delegates were mostly local officers and shop stewards. Whether they were from old, well-established locals like Cigar Local 273 of New York, or young and up-and-coming, like Local 56 of Trenton, each delegate had much to give and much to take from the school.

Discussion on the history of FTA and the CIO, led by Education Director Connie Anderson, dealt with the principles of industrial unionism and the special problems of FTA. The constitution of FTA was studied and discussed, as well as the structure of the Union.

How to solve local union problems was the question that got top priority in all discussions. It was the thread that ran through the talks on contract negotiations and WLB cases, led by Jessica Rhine, FTA WLB Rep., which took up the best clauses to work for in union contracts. Handling grievances, duties of shop stewards, and the smooth functioning of local unions were discussed in detail.

Following the discussion on legislative issues in Congress, led by Washington Rep. Elizabeth Sasuly, the delegates wrote letters to their Congressmen.

FTA President Donald Henderson rounded out the solid week of learning with a discussion of world labor organization and the strengthening of FTA.

—And not to mention the good food, beer, movies—and the rolling green hills!

ROSELLA LEININGER, Local 115, Quaker Oats, Depew, N. Y.: "Our Local is organized about 100%, but we have learned from this school that our Union cannot be strong unless we organize other plants around us. There are many food processing plants in our locality, and we want to make them FTA plants. That's going to be our big job from now on."

VIOLA CASTAGNOLA, Local 207, Hills Bros., Brooklyn, N. Y.: "I learned a lot here—about contracts, grievance procedure, War Labor Board cases, political action—about unionism in general. And I'll bring my learning back to the membership in my Local."

SMILING FACES UNDER FARMER HATS: a group of school delegates pose with "teacher." Reading left to right, front row: Nathan Javitz, American Tobacco; Florence Mercantini, Local 56 Vice-Pres.; "Teacher" Connie Anderson, FTA Education Director; Cora Morgan, Local 111; Joe Rhine, son of FTA Rep. Jessica Rhine; and Edward Delahoyd, Int. Org. Second row: George Ardelean, Local 186 Business Agent; Lucy Aiello, Local 56 Pres.; Armando Ramirez, Int. Vice-Pres.; Agnes Asterino, Local 56; and Mary Peay, Local 186 Steward. Back row: Tom Mason, Local 186 Steward; Caferino Lugo, Local 273; and Mary Godrey, Local 105 Pres.

A HOT DISCUSSION was a regular sight after classes, whenever two or more people got together. Above, FTA President Donald Henderson, Int. Vice-Pres. Armando Ramirez, Washington Rep. Elizabeth Sasuly, and Local 80 Steward Norman Tribbett enjoy a bull session. Delegates left the school with notebooks full of facts and heads full of new ideas.

LEARNING TO MAKE LEAFLETS was one of the "extra" offerings at the school. Hard at work here (reading clockwise around the table) are: Anna Tarsatana, Chief Shop Steward at American Tobacco; Connie Anderson, FTA Education Director; Bertie Selden, Press and Publicity Director; Florence Mercantini, Local 56; Agnes Asterino, Local 56; Severino Martinez, Local 273 Business Agent; Cora Morgan, Local 111; (three faces partly hidden); Lucy Aiello, Local 56; and Armando Ramirez, Int. Vice-Pres.

Court Fines Woman Who Attacked FTA Organizer

Martin, Tenn.—Upholding the right of union organizers to organize workers under full protection of the law, the city and state courts located in Martin, Tenn., held the attackers of FTA Organizer Mary Lou Koger guilty of assault and battery.

On June 15, Sister Koger, pretty young daughter of FTA Sub-Regional Director Harry Koger, was giving out the first leaflets in the organizing campaign at the General Cigar plant, when she was viciously attacked by two women. They bit her eye, tore her dress and pulled her hair. Sister Koger swore out warrants for their arrests with the city and the state, charging them with assault and battery and mayhem. Several days later, they brought charges against her on the same counts.

The hearing was held on June 30 before an overflow crowd of workers and townspeople who, despite the extreme heat, listened attentively for about five hours. The trial was heard by Justice of the Peace J. Martin Adams (for the State) and Mr. Biggs (for the City). By agreement, Sister Koger and her two attackers, Mrs. Waggster and Mrs. Ray were all tried at the same time before the two judges.

APPEALS TO PREJUDICE

George Rallette, attorney for the two attackers, knew that he didn't have a chance to win, so he used the trial as an appeal to the crowd in the courtroom against Sister Koger. He described her as an "outside agitator" who had come to their peaceful community to cause trouble. He said she had attended a Labor School (Highlander Folk School, Monteagle, Tenn.) for the purpose of being trained in the art of fighting and biting. He had a parade of witnesses who said that Sister Koger had jumped on Mrs. Waggster biting her and pulling her hair. Their conflicting stories showed that their testimonies were lies.

Mr. Robert Gallimore, well-known attorney in Martin, who defended Sister Koger, proved that she had been bitten in the eye and even had her dress to prove how it was torn to shreds.

LAWFUL RIGHT

In summing up the case, Gallimore asked for a verdict of "guilty" for Mrs. Waggster and Mrs. Ray.

"Under an act passed by Congress, during the administration of our beloved late President, Franklin D. Roosevelt, who said that working people should belong to labor unions, Miss Koger had the lawful right to hand out leaflets at the plant without being attacked," Gallimore asserted. "It wasn't this union organizer who disturbed our peaceful community, but these two women who viciously attacked her. If these two women are not found guilty, I'm afraid there will be other disturbances.

SHOULD BELONG TO UNIONS

"Working people should belong to labor unions to get the kind of living they are entitled to," Gallimore continued. "They have as much right to belong to their labor unions as we lawyers have to belong to our Bar Association, or doctors to their Medical Assaciations, or businessmen to their Chambers of Commerce."

Justice Martin, in his verdict, dismissed the charges against Sister Koger. He bound Mrs. Waggster and Mrs. Ray over to the Grand Jury. Mr. Biggs dismissed charges against Miss Koger too, and fined Mrs. Waggster $10.00 and court costs.

This is a big victory for democracy in the town of Martin.

Hail WLB Arrival Of No-Discrimination Rule

Philadelphia, Pa.—"The recent decision of the Third Regional War Labor Board approving a non-discrimination clause in a UAW contract leaves the American Tobacco Co. without a leg to stand on in its fight to keep out a similar clause in our contract," said Anna Tarsatana, Chief Shop Steward at the plant, speaking for the Negotiating Committee.

FTA negotiators at American Tobacco are demanding the inclusion of an overall no-discrimination clause; a provision that wages be based on job content only, without discrimination because of race, color, creed or sex; and a modification of the seniority clause providing that the ratio of Negro workers to the total number of employees in the bargaining unit shall not be reduced.

Other demands opposed by the Company are a 65c minimum wage and proportionate increases in all classifications, as well as automatic checkoff of dues.

ASSURES VICTORY

The Company's opposition to the no-discrimination clause looked as though it might stand up because until now the Regional Board had no stated policy on the issue. However, with Board approval of the UAW clause stating that provisions of its contract with a Chambersburg firm shall apply "without discrimination on account of race, color, national origin, creed, marital status or sex," FTA is assured victory in its fight for no-discrimination at American Tobacco.

A conciliator has been called in by the Negotiating Committee to break the deadlock, even while the Company is still in the process of appealing the WLB order on last year's contract.

In spite of delays, FTA members at the plant have forged ahead to enroll new members to back up the fight against the Company.

Local 22 Stewards Learn How to Use New Contract

Winston-Salem, N. C.—No sooner did the Union and the R. J. Reynolds (Camels) Co. sign their new contract on the dotted line, than the Local 22 Shop Stewards buckled down to learn how to use that contract to the best advantage of the workers in the plant.

The Stewards School, held on June 30, was opened by Dr. George Mauze, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, who led the opening devotions. Then the class settled down to learn.

Business Agent Theodosia Simpson and Organizer Gene Pratt went into the contract provisions on seniority, promotions, transfers and absenteeism. This was followed by a skit on grievance procedure presented by Janie Robinson, Viola Brown and Moranda Smith, members of the public speaking class.

Pfc. Mike Ross, on furlough from the European Theatre of War, spoke on the principles of trade unionism.

In the evening, Regional Director Frank Green picked up the discussion on contract provisions and went into the clauses on wages, discharges and seasonal workers.

Between 6:30 and 7 o'clock supper, prepared by Anne Ross and Rosalie Green, was served in the Committee room of the Union Hall. And, following that, the Stewards completed their study of the contract provisions.

At the end of each session on the contract provisions, the Stewards took true-and-false tests to help them get cleared up on points that they were not sure of.

During every intermission in the day, Ruth Davenport and Theodosia Simpson led the group in singing. The school was closed by Educational Director Eleanore Hoagland who spoke on how to use what they learned in building the Union.

A Contest FOR FTA MEMBERS

Are you a good Union member? One of the tests of a good unionist is knowing your politics—being aware of the political issues that affect labor and letting your Congressman know how you feel about those issues.

If you have already started writing letters to your Congressman, this contest is your meat! If not, why not start now?

WRITE A LETTER

CONTEST RULES:

1—This contest begins May 1, 1945, and ends midnight, July 31, 1945.

2—Write a letter to your Congressman, Senator, or any other government official.

3—Write about any one of the many issues which affect you as a worker and citizen. You may write about manpower legislation, Bretton Woods, OPA extension, the 65c minimum wage, or any other issue.

4—Send an extra copy of your letter to the Editor, FTA News, Room 418, 1505 Race St., Phila 2, Pa.

REMEMBER:

Your letter need not be an angry one. Good letters can also be written to good Congressmen.

Your letter will not be judged by its spelling and punctuation but by what it says. Say as much as you can, as briefly as you can.

Prizes!

Prizes will be awarded to the three best letters submitted. The winners will have a choice of any one of the following popular and stimulating books:

"The Cross and the Arrow" by Albert Maltz
"Freedom Road" by Howard Fast
"Deep River" by Henrietta Buckmaster
"People on Our Side" by Edgar Snow

Prize-winning letters and others which win honorable mention will be published in FTA News.

Layoffs Increasing In War Industries

Washington, D. C.—Official Dept. of Labor figures released July 11 showed sharp increases in layoff rates in most war industries.

In aircraft, the figure jumped from 14 to 51 layoffs per 1,000 workers in May over April.

The highest rate was in the transportation equipment group, with 36 per 1,000. Munitions jumped from 11 to 17 per 1,000, while the shipbuilding industry held steady at 31 per 1,000.

Second highest layoff rate was found in ordnance, with 22 per 1,000, caused by curtailed operations in tank, bomb and shell loading, shell case, and sighting and fire control equipment plants.

Over the U. S., as a whole, for every 1,000 workers on factory payrolls in May, 47 quit, 6 were discharged, 12 were laid off, and 4 left to join the armed services.

Notes of the LOCALS

Gains at Planters

26 **Suffolk, Va.** — Local 26 has received new benefits under its new contract just negotiated with the Planter Peanut Co. Some of the benefits are maintenance of membership; one-week's vacation for employees with more than a year's service; grievance procedure, seniority; 3c and 5c differentials for the 2nd and 3rd shifts; 2 hours call-in pay; 8c increases for women after 60 days; 5c an hour increase for all men getting 55c or less.

Women are to be granted maternity leave of 6 weeks before delivery and 2 months after. This leave may be extended to one year on a doctor's certificate. For the first time, the Company has agreed to erect 8 bulletin boards for the use of the Union.

By Bea McCrea, Bus. Agt.

Export Negotiates

45 **Richmond, Va.** — Local 45 and the Export Leaf Tobacco Co. have completed negotiations on renewing their contract for the coming year, leaving open wages on which they could not agree. They will meet before a U. S. Conciliator on wages.

By Max Sussman, Bus. Agt.

Membership Contest

57 **Richmond, Va.**—An organizational contest is being run at the Southern Biscuit Co. by Local 57 to speed the signing up of new members in the Union. Every new member signed up is counted as one point, and the individual scoring the highest number of points will win $15. Second prize is $10 and third prize is $5.

Shop Stewards Annabelle Bradley, Junius Boyde, Henry Norton, Thelma Douglas; Secy.-Treas. Pete Murphy, and Charles Brent are already gathering steam for the race down the home stretch.

30 new members were signed up in the first two weeks of the contest, and by its end on August 31st, the Local hopes to have the plant 100% organized.

By Max Sussman, Bus. Agt.

New Officers

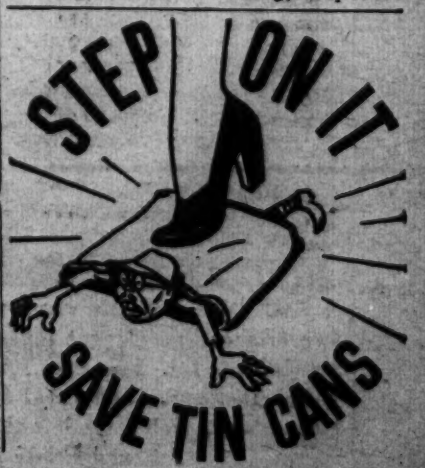
110 **Cedar Rapids, Iowa**—Newly elected officers of Local 110 are: Wesley Kopecky, Pres.; Wallace Post, Vice-Pres.; Ramona Tefer, Rec. Secy.; Louis Jedlicka, Fin. Secy. and Bus. Agt.; Frank Kerres, Chief Steward for Men; Agnes Vleko, Chief Steward for Women; Wm. Hesse, Sgt.-at-Arms; Libbie Bisek, Shirley and Marvin Gates, Trustees.

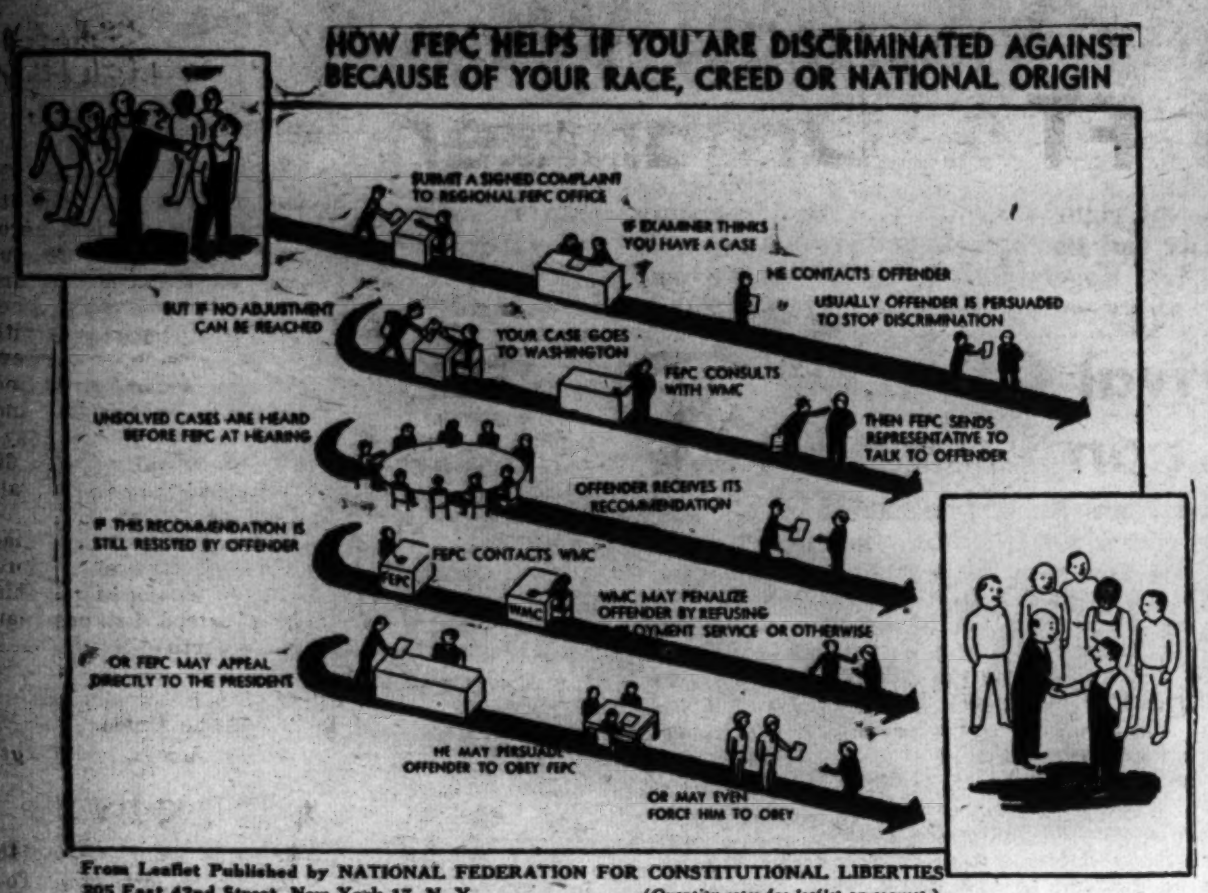
These officers will take their posts on August 13, but have been elected in advance to enable the new officers to attend the FTA Midwest School.

New Officers

125 **St. Joseph, Mo.** — Newly elected officers of Local 125 are: H. V. Cline, Pres.; James R. Stewart, Vice-Pres.; Rex L. Brooks, Chief Steward for men; Arlena Voberg, Chief Steward for women; Julia B. Hines, Rec. and Fin. Secy.; Archie Hudnall and Felix R. Brown, Door Guards; Mary E. Ellis, Daniel Townsend, Max Johnson, Trustees; Virgil H. Smith, James O. Haley, Roscoe Turner, Trustees.

By James O. Haley, Reporter




HOW FEPC HELPS IF YOU ARE DISCRIMINATED AGAINST BECAUSE OF YOUR RACE, CREED OR NATIONAL ORIGIN
SUBMIT A SIGNED COMPLAINT TO REGIONAL FEPC OFFICE
IF EXAMINER THINKS YOU HAVE A CASE
HE CONTACTS OFFENDER
USUALLY OFFENDER IS PERSUADED TO STOP DISCRIMINATION
BUT IF NO ADJUSTMENT CAN BE REACHED
YOUR CASE GOES TO WASHINGTON
FEPC CONSULTS WITH WMC
THEN FEPC SENDS REPRESENTATIVE TO TALK TO OFFENDER
UNSOLVED CASES ARE HEARD BEFORE FEPC AT HEARING
OFFENDER RECEIVES ITS RECOMMENDATION
IF THIS RECOMMENDATION IS STILL RESISTED BY OFFENDER
FEPC CONTACTS WMC
WMC MAY PENALIZE OFFENDER BY REFUSING
OR FEPC MAY APPEAL DIRECTLY TO THE PRESIDENT
HE MAY PERSUADE OFFENDER TO OBEY FEPC
OR MAY EVEN FORCE HIM TO OBEY
FEPC
WMC

From Leaflet Published by NATIONAL FEDERATION FOR CONSTITUTIONAL LIBERTIES
205 East 42nd Street, New York 17, N. Y. *(Quantity rates for leaflet on request.)*

They Couldn't Kill FEPC: The bitter gang-up by the poll-taxers and reactionaries failed, on July 12, to kill the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee. By a vote of 188 to 116, the House of Representatives passed a $250,000 appropriation to continue the work of the wartime agency which protects the rights of Negroes, Jews, Mexicans and other minorities to work without discrimination. Victory in this fight was the result of a powerful campaign conducted by labor, Negro and other organizations. The next round will be the campaign to make FEPC a permanent agency.

8 to 10 Million Jobless Possible After V-J Day

New York, N. Y.—Unless Congress takes immediate actions to plan public works and to provide for full employment by passing measures like the House and Senate Full Employment bills (H.R. 2202 and S. 380), we may expect from 8 to 10 million unemployed by late 1946 or early 1947. This prediction is based on the probability that the war with Japan will be over by then, according to the July issue of Economic Notes, a publication put out by the Labor Research Association.

"Estimates of unemployment in the year ahead vary greatly, the publication points out. "Assuming that war contracts are cut as much as 50% by next spring and some four or five million workers are dropped from industry, while two million leave the armed services, the total number then counted as unemployed might not be more than three million. This figure is based on the estimate that reconversion will employ possibly two million workers, that another million will be absorbed by the shortening of the work-week, and that possibly another million will withdraw from the labor force.

"Predictions on job losses by WPB Chairman J. A. Krug are much lower than the above figures But he seems to reckon only on the number of workers dropped from the munitions industries proper. The millions of workers whose jobs depend on orders from the war industries will also be affected by contract cutbacks. Steel workers and wage earners in similar industries providing materials for munition plants will certainly be hit indirectly by the coming cutbacks."

Sharply increased downgrading and wage cutting will also mark the months ahead, Economic Notes says, supporting labor's demand for an immediate 20% increase in basic wage rates to head off economic disaster. "There is need for an increase of at least 10% to bring wage rates into line with the higher cost of living," it says. "And an additional 10% is required to balance labor's increased productivity during the war.

"A 20% increase in wage rates would do no more than restore the relationships between wage rates, prices and productivity that prevailed before the war. To raise labor's standard of living a little higher than prewar and to provide employment for the millions that were then unemployed a still further rise is necessary."

Full Employment Bill Backed By 72 Congressmen

Washington, D. C.—Under the leadership of Rep. George E. Outland (D., Calif.), a committee of 72 Congressmen has introduced in the House a bill outlining a program of 60 million jobs. The bill, H.R. 2202, is similar to the Wagner-Murray Full employment bill, S. 380, now pending in the Senate.

Both Senate and House bills on full employment stress the right of everyone seeking a job to "useful, remunerative, regular and fulltime employment." And where private industry falls short in providing the quota of 60 million jobs, the bills provide for the government to step in with funds at its disposal to create jobs.

The jobs thus created by the government must contribute to the national welfare and at the same time stimulate private industry to create more jobs.

The President is to be charged with preparing a full employment budget and with recommending legislation to maintain employment.

The bill also authorizes the President to suggest legislation to prevent inflation, when full employment is achieved.

Tell It To Congress

MANEUVERS to weaken the laws that protect organized labor and workers' rights are cropping up steadily in Congress. Unionists must let Congressmen know where they stand on the following issues:

Ball-Burton-Hatch Bill (S. 1171)

Union-busting in nature and fascist in spirit, this bill is out to destroy the Wagner Act, outlaws closed shops, etc., under the phony slogan of improving industrial relations.

ACTION: Wire your Senators to oppose this and any attempts to repeal the Wagner Act and other labor legislation.

NLRB Funds

$379,000 of $400,000 restored by Senate Committee.
ACTION: Wire Representatives to keep this in.

Full Employment (S. 380 and H.R. 2202)

All labor must back these bills with vigor to lay the groundwork for 60 million jobs. Hearings are slated.

ACTION: Write both Senators and Representatives to demonstrate the unity of all workers behind these bills. Urge immediate committee hearings.

UNCIO Charter

Charter for United Nations Organization up in Senate now for ratification.

ACTION: Get every local member to write his Senator to ratify the Charter.

Poll-Tax Repeal (H.R. 7)

Passed many weeks ago in the House, the bill is still before the Senate Judiciary Committee.

ACTION: Write Sen. Pat McCarran, Chairman, to report bill out immediately. Urge your Senators to vote for it and to fight filibuster.

THE Story of Labor
THIS IS THE STORY OF LABOR, IN THE BEGINNING, THE OVERLORDS SET WORKER AGAINST WORKER TO KEEP THEM DIVIDED AND ENSLAVED.
JOE WORKER
FOR EXAMPLE, WHEN KING NIMROD THOUGHT TO BUILD THE TOWER OF BABEL AS A FORTRESS FOR DEFENSE, HE DREW HIS WORKERS FROM DIFFERENT TRIBES AND DIFFERENT TONGUES, AND CLEVERLY GOT THEM TO DISTRUST EACH OTHER HE WAS SUCCESSFUL... TOO SUCCESSFUL! FOR THEY QUARRELED SO FIERCELY THE TOWER WAS NEVER FINISHED AND DEFENSELESS BABYLON FELL....
TODAY LABOR HAS LEARNED THE LESSON. ONLY IN UNION IS THERE STRENGTH. NATIVE BORN AND FOREIGN, CHRISTIAN AND JEW, PROTESTANT AND CATHOLIC, WHITE AND NEGRO... WORKERS ALL... AMERICANS ALL... MARCH SIDE BY SIDE, VICTORIOUS!
157
YOU MUST FINISH THIS TOWER OF BABEL SOON. OUR ENEMIES ARE GATHERING, BUT I FEAR REVOLT IN THIS CONCOURSE OF WORKER SLAVES!
FEAR NOT GREAT NIMROD! THEY ARE OF MANY TONGUES AND I'VE STIRRED MUCH MISUNDERSTANDINGS BETWEEN THEM!
YOU DIRTY ELAMITE! WHY DON'T YOU GO BACK WHERE YOU CAME FROM!
YOURS IS A BARBAROUS TONGUE, YOU FILTHY CHALDEAN!
WHY DO YOU FIGHT? ARE YOU NOT BOTH WORKERS?
MY PLANS WORK! NIMROD NEED FEAR NO REVOLT FROM THESE FOOLS!
TAKE THAT YOU ISRAELITE!
HELP ME!
HEY! GET TO WORK! THE ASSYRIANS ARE COMING!
MY OVERSEER WAS A FOOL! HAD MY WORKERS STUCK TOGETHER...!
ALAS! NOW I AM WORSE OFF THAN BEFORE!
YOU WOULD NOT HEED ME THEN, BUT SOME DAY WE WORKERS WILL UNITE AND SPEAK THE SAME LANGUAGE!
JOE WORKER WAS A TRUE PROPHET IN 1945 ... IN A WAR PLANT...
ATTA BOY, IZZY! YOU'RE DOING SWELL!
KEEP 'EM ROLLING GEORGE!
IN UNION THERE IS STRENGTH TO LICK ALL KINDS OF TYRANTS!
WHEW! THERE'RE THOUSANDS LIKE US IN THE AIR!
YEAH! THOSE FELLOWS BACK HOME ARE SURE DOING A JOB!
BOMBS AWAY!
Jack Alderman

UNION MEN IN UNIFORM

Local 22 Veterans Demand Congress Act On Vital Legislative Issues

By Theodosia Simpson, Business Agent, Local 22

Winston-Salem, N. C.—Although they've stepped out of uniform and into civilian clothes, the World War II Veterans of Local 22 aren't putting their past behind them. They are picking up the fight for a better future in the ranks of organized labor. The first meeting of the Servicemen's Committee of Local 22, held on June 23, was an enthusiastic one, and the members voted unanimously to hold regular monthly meetings.

Pfc. Mike Ross, home on furlough from the European theatre, a veteran of the invasion of Normandy and the battle of Germany, spoke for the men in service and where they stand in regard to trade unionism.

Larry Larsen, torpedoed seaman and former member of the National Maritime Union, now organizing for FTA, gave the point of view of the merchant seamen. Other speakers were servicemen home on furlough: Pfc. J. B. Williams who wears the ribbon of the European Theater of Operations; Samuel Jenkins, one of the first in the Pacific Theater; and S 1/c W. H. Sheppard, the son of W. C. (Slim) Sheppard, an organizer of Local 22.

Local 22 Educational Director Eleanore Hoagland led a discussion on the problems of organized labor, and Regional Director Frank Green spoke on the program of FTA.

SEND TELEGRAMS

Seizing upon the weapon of political action to assure their future as well as the future of the GI's they left behind, the veterans passed resolutions urging the establishment of a permanent FEPC; the passage of Full Employment Bill S. 380 and H.R. 2202; the passage of President Truman's unemployment compensation bill of $25.00 for 26 weeks; and urging that the conditions in veterans' hospitals be substantially improved. Telegrams to this effect were sent to President Truman and to the U. S. Senators and Congressmen from North Carolina.

"POP" ENTERTAINS

Entertainment was provided by J. P. Powell, a discharged veteran who had volunteered for duty at the age of 47. "Pop", as he was called by all the boys in his camp, gave out with some of his many imitations. After the meeting, the boys went into the Committee room which was decorated with flowers and a poster reading: "Welcome home boys!—FTA-CIO—Local 22." The table was loaded down with sandwiches, cake, soft drinks and cigarettes.

Velma Hopkins, Corrine Pickenpack, Etta Hobson, Theodosia Simpson and Anne Ross, the hostesses for the evening, sang a group of Union songs including "Solidarity Forever," "I'm Going to Put My Name Down," and "G-I Joe, The CIO Has Got A Plan."

Clarence O. Conrad, Chairman of the Servicemen's Committee announced that the next meeting of the Committee would take place on July 28.

Here is your infantry: Demonstrating the use of a 60-millimeter mortar in knocking out hidden Jap gun emplacements, these boys help train our other millions of soldiers so that the Japs will also know the taste of unconditional surrender. This picture was taken at the 7th War Loan show sponsored by the Akron (Ohio) Industrial Union Council in which Local 120 played a big part.

Discharged Vet Happy To Find Union In Plant

By Lottie Davis, Secretary, Local 57

Richmond, Va.—Veteran of three invasions (Africa, Sicily and Europe), William (Bill) Coon has returned to work at the Southern Biscuit Co. after having served in the Army for over three years. Bill is too retiring to talk about his exploits, but he did let drop that he has been decorated four times. He also holds the Purple Heart medal. During his stay in the Army, he accumulated 124 points.

When asked what he thought of coming back to his former job and finding the plant organized in the FTA, he replied, "I've always been strong for the Union, and sure am happy to see that the CIO is working so well here at Southern Biscuit."

Bill fought hard on two previous occasions when the workers attempted to organize the plant. He was pleased to see that the job was finally accomplished and that the workers had a fine new contract. Under the seniority clause, his job and the jobs of all the returning servicemen are firmly secured.

Bill Coon first came to work at Southern Biscuit in 1936, and he finds that co-operation between management and the workers are in better shape than it ever was then. Bill's got a job that is right up his alley—supervising the running of one of the ovens which bakes the K rations going to our troops. He vividly recalls the K rations he received in the field, and was surprised to learn that the plant is engaged in their manufacture.

Local 120 Member Home After 85 Missions

By J. N. Billings, Reporter

Akron, Ohio—Lt. Merle Brown, a member of Local 120 ever since it has been in the International, is home on furlough after 35 flying missions over Germany.

At the time he entered the Army Air Forces, Brown was employed in the Mechanical Dept. of the Quaker Oats Co. as a painter.

Back in March of 1944, Lt. Brown thought his flying days were over. It was on his 13th mission over Berlin when the big flying fortress he was piloting was badly damaged by flak. As two motors were shot out he fell out of formation and was immediately attacked by about 200 German fighters. A heavy cloud bank saved the plane temporarily and gave him time to head the plane north. He crash-landed on a tiny Island in the North Sea where the entire crew was interned by the Swedish government.

After seven months Brown managed to escape back to Allied lines and eventually completed his quota of missions against the Nazis.

Lt. Brown is anxiously awaiting redeployment to the Pacific where he hopes to be assigned to a B-29 to help finish off the Japs.

LT. MERLE BROWN

Rankin Aims To Use Vets In Union-Busting Drive

Washington, D. C.—Posing as a friend of the war veterans, the notorious poll-taxer Rep. John E. Rankin (D, Miss.) has mapped out a dangerous plan to use the ex-GI's as pawns against the American worker. The measure, aimed at busting the labor movement, is awaiting action by the House Rules Committee before coming to a showdown.

The bill would make it possible for war veterans to get jobs in any plant without joining a union or paying dues, despite a closed shop or a maintenance of membership contract—even if maintenance of membership was ordered by the National War Labor Board.

Designed to create a split between the worker and the ex-soldier, the measure provides that "not withstanding any other provision of law or any other contract or agreement, no veteran . . . shall be required as a condition of employment, to be or become a member of, or to maintain membership in, any labor organization, club, association, or other organization, or, as a non-member thereof, to make any payments thereto in the form of dues, assessments, charges, contributions or other payments."

MAIL CALL

"OUR trip home was most interesting," **writes Sgt. Jack Fox, Int. Rep. on leave, on 30-day furlough after some twenty missions over Germany.** "Our battle weary Liberator was a hybrid plane—the front section was part of a wrecked B-24 J, and the rear section part of a B-24 H. We called her the 'Half and Half,' with 107 missions to her credit.

"From England we flew to Iceland. There I fished off the rocks and caught some big whoppers. I also sat up an entire night to see if the sun would set. It didn't.

"From Iceland we flew to Canada, then to Bradley Field, and now home."

SERVICEMEN:

When your military address changes, please notify FTA News immediately, so that you can continue to receive the paper.

Johnnie JONES
YOU'RE NOT GOING ANYPLACE UNTIL JUMBO GETS BACK SAFE AND SOUND, JOHNNIE!
BY DON RICO
--AND IF HE DOESN'T COME BACK IN A HALF-HOUR---I'M GOING TO SHOOT YOU--- BUT DEAD!
WHOOPS! THE GUY DID WALK INTO THE F.B.I.'S TRAP! I'D BETTER DO SOME FANCY GABBING!
BABY! ANNIE! HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT WHEN YOU KNOW HOW I FEEL ABOUT YOU!
EH? WHAT'S THIS?
I LOVE YOU, HONEY--AND YOU WANT TO KILL ME!
JOHNNIE!
WHY--YOU AND I COULD MAKE MUSIC TOGETHER!
DO YOU REALLY---
M-M-M-M-BABY---
NEA FEDERATED PRESS